

Weekly Review

## **Top Secret**

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CI WR 76-012C SC 00752/76 March 19, 1976

Copy Nº 668

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**CONTENTS** (March 19, 1976)





In its effort to annex eastern Timor, Jakarta has been more concerned about the international reaction to its invasion than about overcoming resistance in the Portuguese territory. The report issued this week on the UN investigation of the situation should ease this concern.

The UN report states that an accurate assessment of the Timor situation as a whole "remains elusive" and makes no judgments on Fretilin accusations of intervention by Indonesian troops. It contains a straightforward account of the UN representative's trip and restates the positions of the various Timorese factions and interested countries. The report concludes that all the parties and countries concerned agree that the people of castern Timor should determine their own fate but notes that they disagree on how this should be accomplished.

No date has been set for Security Council consideration of the report. The Indonesians are anxious to avoid debate as long as possible in order to allow time for carefully managed elections to choose a Timorese delegation that would visit Jakarta and "appeal" for incorporation into Indonesia. The Indonesians through their regime in Dili have even proposed that the UN investigator return to Timor to visit previously contested areas to obtain a more comprehensive view of the situation.

The Indonesian military attempt to eliminate resistance in the rugged hinterlands has slowed considerably in the past few weeks in face of Fretilin hit-and-run attacks. The push into the countryside, now in its sixth week, has driven the Fretilin from many of its base; and has put all the significant population centers and military installations in Indonesian hands, but the guerrillas have been able to inflict casualties on Indonesian troops.

Fretilin successes have been due mainly to the guerrillas' ability to exploit the island's rugged terrain to ambush Indonesian supply convoys. Some Indonesian units have begun to move supplies overland with pack animals and native porters. Although morale in some Indonesian unis deteriorating, Fretilin appears incapable of seriously disrupting Jakarta's plans for Eastern Timor.

